



Wimbledon and Putney Commons

Media Statement November 2023

MOD Appointed Conservator Resigns Effective May 2024

Peter Shortt, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) appointed Conservator has resigned his position with Wimbledon and Putney Commons (WPCC) for personal and family reasons. He will, however, remain as a Conservator and Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) until May 2024 to help support the transition to a new Board after the Conservators' election scheduled for March 2024, and the preparation and approval of the annual report and accounts.

The Chairman of WPCC, Diane Neil Mills, commented: "In his time with the Board, Peter has made an important contribution in a number of areas, notably in providing effective leadership for the Audit and Risk Committee and in identifying the key risks that challenge the organisation; he has also been a strong supporter of the levy initiative. I am extremely grateful for all that Peter has done in his role, always in a wise and measured way, a reflection of the breadth and depth of experience that he has brought to WPCC. He will be greatly missed by Conservators and staff alike".

The Ministerial Appointment by the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Defence is made under the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act of 1871. The Governance for the open spaces that constitute Wimbledon and Putney Commons is provided by eight Conservators, five of whom are directly elected by the electorate from the levy-paying area and the remaining three appointed by the Secretaries of State from three government departments: Home Office, Ministry of Defence (MOD) and Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

ENDS

NOTES for Editors - Wimbledon and Putney Commons is a charity managed by the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators (WPCC). It was established under the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Act of 1871. The Commons comprise some 1,140 acres across Wimbledon Common, Putney Heath and Putney Lower Common.

Contact: Colin Cooper, Chief Executive

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Tel: 020 8788 7655, E-mail: rangersoffice@wpcc.org.uk website: www.wpcc.org.uk